GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2614
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2000
HARASSMENT TO INDIAN DIPLOMATS IN PAK
NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the residential premises of two Indian diplomats in Islamabad were intruded upon by the operatives of the Pakistan Intelligence agencies on August 30, 2000;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any protest in this regard had been lodged with the Government of Pakistan;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the response of the Government of Pakistan thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The residential premises of two Indian diplomats based in Islamabad were intruded upon by the operatives of the Pakistan intelligence agencies on August 30, 2000.

In the first incident, five intelligence operatives, claiming to be employees of the Capital Development Authority, entered the house of one of our Counsellors while his wife, a teenaged daughter and a young son were at home by themselves. They went all over the house, rummaged through their personal belongings and made threatening statements before leaving. They refused to show their identity cards when asked to do so. In the second incident, six intelligence agents forced their entry into the residence of the Air Adviser after threatening his servant`s family with a gun and subjected the family to similar intimidation and harassment.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Ministry of External Affairs summoned the Pakistani Deputy High Commissioner the same evening and lodged a strong protest deploring the blatant and gross violation of the privacy and sanctity of the residential premises of the Indian diplomats. The Ministry demanded that measures be taken to ensure that there were no repetitions of such incidents in future and sought adequate security for all personnel of the High Commission of India, Islamabad and their residential premises.

(e) In their formal response to our demarches, Government of Pakistan stated that they had thoroughly investigated the matter and that our complaints were found to be completely baseless. Government conveyed their deep regret and rejection of the findings of the Government of Pakistan.